

second encoding of said first encoded version for obtaining a corresponding second encoded version of the information;

wherein one of said first and second steps of encoding results in said corresponding version being substantially restricted from a first party manipulating the information encoded therein without having access to a first decoding data;

wherein another of said first and second steps of encoding results in said corresponding version being substantially restricted from a second party determining the information therein without having access to a second decoding data;

first providing, to the second party, said second encoded version;

subsequently, performing a predetermined activity between the first and second parties using an instance of the information, wherein the second party does not have access to said second decoding data but has access to at least portions of the information;

subsequently, second providing to the second party said second decoding data;

wherein the second party decodes the second encoded version using the second decoding data, and then decodes the first encoded version using the first decoding data.

Please cancel Claim 18

REMARKS

It is believed that the above claims are patentable over all prior art. In particular, no prior art known, including Micali (i.e., U.S. Patent No. 5,629,982), performs the steps in the amended independent claims 1 and 17. In particular, the steps of these claims are not performed by Micali since the term "information", as used in the claims, is believed to have no correspondence in Micali. More particularly, it is believed that any of the data recited in Micali cannot satisfy all conditions associated with the term "information" as used in the claims. Moreover, the sequence of steps recited in the independent claims are also not provided in Micali. In particular, the examiner should note that at least some of the steps in the independent claims must follow one another, and accordingly, it is believed that Micali does not disclose or suggest this sequence of steps.

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Regarding the 35 U.S.C. 103(a) Rejection as a result of combining Vuong et al with Micali is also believed to be overcome since Micali is overcome.

Accordingly, since all claims are now believed to be in condition for allowance, it is requested that the Examiner allow the present application so that it can be issued as a patent.

If the Examiner has any concerns or questions regarding the present response, it is requested that the Examiner contact the undersigned Applicant.

As mentioned in the initial portion of this transmittal, it is believed no fees are due beyond the three month extension fee which is included herewith.

Respectfully submitted,

By: 
Sheldon F. Goldberg, Co-inventor

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